

**Remarks:**

Claim 8 was rejected over patent 2,711,786 to Weiss although his advertising bench does not contain a heat trace cable. The bench of Weiss has no resistive heating element to create heat. His cable is a power cord that does not supply heat to the bench and is clearly not a heat trace cable. Any wiring in Weiss' bench provides power and no heat. There is no resistive heating element present to create heat. Heat trace cable consists of two wires in a cable separated by a semi conductor that conducts electricity between the two wires but provides enough resistance to create the required amount of heat. Placement and amount of cable in Weiss' invention are such that even if it was a heat trace cable, it wouldn't provide a heated seat. Heat trace cable was not invented in 1953 when Weiss was granted his patent. Therefore, it would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the bench of Weiss.

Claim 8 was also rejected in view of McDowell patent 6,220,659. McDowell uses a power cord that is connected to a thin film heating element as in his claim 3. The power cord is only supplying electricity to the film heating element. The power cord is not a heat trace cable and creates no heat. Resistance in the film heating element causes heat in McDowell's invention. The bench does not get hot until electricity reaches the resistive thin film element. McDowell's invention is clearly different in the method of heating a bench.

Conclusion:

This applicant respectfully submits the claims define over the prior art under Section 102 because the method of heating the bench is novel and the claimed distinctions are of patentable merit under Section 103 because of this method. Accordingly, applicant submits that this application is now in full condition for allowance, which action applicant respectfully solicits.

Very respectfully,

George A. Austin

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Austin".

120 W. Apricot Ave.

Salt Lake City, Utah 84103

801-355-3470

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3/17/08

Inventor's signature

*George Austin*

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